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SOURCE Hsin-wen Jih-pao.

CHINESE FARMERS SEEK WORK IN CITIES;
NORTHEAST CITIES ANNOUNCE RECONSTRUCTION PLANS

[Comment: The GAC (Government Administration Council), on 17 April 1953, issued an order to stop the wide-spread movement of farmers from the agricultural areas into the cities in search of work. This influx of farmers into the cities was apparently the result of the spreading of news about large-scale industrial reconstruction to be undertaken in the larger cities of the country. The wholesale abandoning of the agricultural areas for more lucrative jobs in the cities appears to have disrupted the economy and manpower balance in the urban and rural areas to the extent that the central government felt it necessary to restrict such uncontrolled movement.

It is significant to note, however, that on 20 April, only 3 days after the GAC order, reconstruction plans for 25 of the principal cities in the Northeast involving 817,600,000 yuan were announced.]

GAC ISSUES ORDER TO STOP INFLUX OF FARMERS INTO CITIES -- Shanghai, Hsin-wen Jih-pao, 18 Apr 53

Peiping, 17 April (Hsin-hua) -- According to recent reports, many farmers have been moving into the cities since spring to search for work on industrial reconstruction projects. A survey of Shen-yang and An-shan revealed that over 20,000 farmers have moved into these cities.

The reconstruction work in the cities has not yet begun, and the need for workers is limited. The reckless influx of farmers into the cities only increases the number of unemployed in the cities and decreases the working force in the agricultural areas. This, in turn, has a great affect on the planting of crops and results in loss to agricultural production.

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To put a stop to this confused situation, the Government Administration Council has issued the following special instructions for the provincial and municipal people's governments to carry out:

1. Provincial and municipal people's governments must immediately notify the hsien, ch'u, and hsang governments and all agricultural associations to take steps to prevent the farmers from going to the cities by explaining that industrial reconstruction in the cities has not yet begun. There is enough labor supply in the cities at present. In the future, when an increased labor force is needed for municipal reconstruction projects, official notification will be given and plans and an organization set up to handle the workers.
2. Hereafter, hsien, ch'u, and hsang people's governments will not issue identification cards to farmers entering cities in search of work with the exception of those who have proper identification cards or contracts from industrial, mining, or construction units.
3. Those farmers who are already in the cities and who are not needed for construction work must be returned to their places of origin through their local government labor offices or labor unions.
4. Farmers who have been recruited in the villages or previously engaged for employment by any construction unit shall, when said unit recognizes that for the time being they are not needed, be in the care of said unit which shall be responsible for returning them to their rural homes, and for providing them with travel money.
5. All village cadres and militia who have come to the cities to find work, shall return to the villages to lead the peasants in spring plowing and sowing. All veteran-heroes and veterans who were settled and employed in the villages, but who came to the cities to find work should return to the villages and take an active part in agricultural production to ensure that the national farm production program shall be fulfilled.
6. All municipal construction units shall inform local construction engineering control bureaus and labor departments of their detailed and accurate plans for construction projects, date of beginning work, number of men to be used, and kinds of work, in order for planned and organized assignment of labor resources. Construction units which have not received permission from the labor bureaus may not recruit labor in the country, and must not put up posters calling for laborers.

RECONSTRUCTION PLANS FOR 25 NORTHEAST CITIES -- Shanghai, Hsin-wen Jih-pao, 23 Apr 53

Sheng-yang, 20 April (Hsin-hua) -- Reconstruction plans for 25 of the principal cities in the Northeast have been completed. The government will invest 817,600,000 yuan in the entire project.

Construction activities this year will be centered around Shen-yang, An-shan, Harbin, and Ch'ang-ch'un. Of the total amount involved 66.5 percent will be used for these four cities.

During the past several years, reconstruction work has been going on in the cities. Incomplete statistics from 20 cities in the Northeast show that during the past 3 years, 8,700,000 square meters of roads were newly built or repaired, 15 projects to purify water and repair waterworks were completed, and 35 projects on coal-gas furnaces were completed.

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According to the construction plans for 25 principal cities in the Northeast, over 2,900,000 square meters of roads are to be newly built or repaired, over 260 kilometers of waterways and gas pipes are to be laid, over 5,000 street lamps are to be put up, and 96,130,000 trees are to be planted. In addition, new street-car lines are to be laid, fire-fighting facilities installed, water reservoirs dug, river dikes built, and coal-gas furnaces constructed.

In An-shan, which is getting the largest amount of money for reconstruction this year, 1,140,000 square meters of roads are to be built to ensure the transport of large amounts of basic construction material and goods into the city.

In Harbin, the area for new industrial development is the Hsiang-fang district from which roads and rail lines are being built and extended in all directions. The total area involved in construction in Harbin is double that of last year, and one half of this total area is for industrial construction. School construction will take up one third of the area. Of the area for industrial construction, 80 percent will be for heavy industrial construction. This will include the construction of a metal structure covering over 24,500 square meters in which large-scale electric motors will be built. This plant will exceed the Harbin Hemp Mill in facilities and in mechanization. The plant will also produce new-type precision tools and measuring tools in large quantities.

Work on the plant to produce large-scale electric machinery started in the latter part of March. A three-story dormitory and a large warehouse was begun in early April. Since the latter part of May, more than 400,000 square meters of construction work on buildings has been started.

To ensure the completion of these projects, the Harbin Municipal Committee of the CCP assigned over 1,000 cadres to the construction units during the first quarter of the year. In addition, more than 1,000 of the cadres originally assigned to construction units have been given a short period of training.

During the winter, the 300,000 permanent workers of the city were given training and many tens of thousands of temporary workers are being organized.

This year, the municipal reconstruction bureau will build or repair 300,000 square meters of roads most of which run through the new industrial district. Over 18,000 meters of water works are to be newly laid or repaired.

The cooperatives of the city will establish 20 additional supply points in the industrial area.

The main effort in Fu-hsun is to purify the contaminated water in the area which has damaged the health of the local residents. One fifth of the total expenditures this year will be applied toward improvement of the water supply.

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